Falling crop yield in India

5054. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SILVR-MA: Will the Minister of AGRIOUL-TURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a World Bank report crop yield is falling in India and there is a decline in the invettment in this sector ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the package Government propose to take to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) No; World Bank report has claimed that crop yield is falling in India. However, it has been mentioned in "India : 1991 Country Economic Memorandum, Volume II: Aigrioulture—challenges and apportunities" that gross domesticc iovestment in agriculture remained constant in real terms be-tween 1980 and 1987, while overall gross domestic investment nearly doubled in the mne period. Further according to the report, match of this stagnation is attributable to falling real public investment in agriculture, which declined by 18% in the period.

(c) The problem of investment in Agri-culture is not a problem of total avail-albflity of resources but one distribution (between current expenditure and capital formation. Since 1980-81, a larger portion of public expenditure went into current expenditure in the form of increased level of subsidies for fertilizer, irrigation, electricity, credit and other agricultural inputs rather than investment. Government is already seized with the task of reducing subsidies and rationalising farm inputs support policies so as to release le-sources for investment in agriculture specially in irrigation which has high potential to enhance productivity.

Cultivation of Mushrooms

5055. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :' Will the Minister of AGR1CUL-TU'RE be pleased to state :

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(a) whethec it is a fact that the countiy has achieved a break-through in the cultivation of mushrooms;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c). the names of the States where the cultivation of mushrooms is being carried oo together with the area under cultivation in each Slate:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AORICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Accordiag to the rough estimaties the total productiom was 100 MT in 1970. 1000 MT in 1981, 7000 MT in 1990, 12,000 MT in 1992 and is expected to reach 25000 MT by 1995. the productivity has also inoreased from 2-3 kg per sq meter (1964-65) to 18—22 kg per sq, meter (1988-89).

(e) The major mushroom producing States are UP, HP, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Karnataka, Delhi, Andhra Pradedi, J&K, Kerala, Maharashtra, M.P., Orissa, West Bengal, Gujarat, Bihar and Rajasthan.

M'ushirooms are grown indoor and not in the field and thus area under cuiltivation can not be indioated.

(Share of agriculture in gross domesic inroduct

5056. SHRI BHUPIEMDER SINGH MANN : Will the Minirter of AGRICUL-TURE be pleased to state ;

(a) what is the sharc of agriculture in the Gross Domestic Product of our country ;

(to) what is the share of agriculture in exports ;

(c) what steps Government would take to make the share of exports at pair with the share of agriculture in Gross Domei-tic Product; and

(d) by when the gap between the two is expected to be filled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN TOE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) As per quick estimates of the Central Staitittical Orga-